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Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

Budget performance of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 and proposed budget for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2016/17	$1,081,788,400
Expenditure for 2016/17	$1,071,740,500
Unencumbered balance for 2016/17	$10,047,900
Appropriation for 2017/18	$1,071,000,000
Projected expenditure for 2017/18[a]	$1,136,157,100
Projected overexpenditure for 2017/18	$65,157,100
Additional requirements submitted by the Secretary-General for 2017/18[b]	$65,157,100
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee on additional requirements for 2017/18[b]	$65,157,100
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2018/19	$1,154,657,700
Adjustment recommended by the Advisory Committee for 2018/19	($6,197,300)
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2018/19	$1,148,460,400

[a] Estimates as at 9 March 2018, not including the request for an additional appropriation in the amount of $65,157,100.

[b] The Secretary-General submitted a request for additional requirements in the amount of $65,157,100 for the period 2017/18 in his report A/72/792. The Advisory Committee has recommended the approval of the full amount of the requested additional appropriation (see A/72/854). This would result in total available resources in the amount of $1,136,157,100 for the period 2017/18.

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I. Introduction

1. During its consideration of the financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 27 April 2018. The documents reviewed and those used for background by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The comments and recommendations of the Committee on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations, including those pertaining to the findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, can be found in its related report (A/72/789). The main observations and recommendations of the Board pertaining specifically to UNMISS are discussed in paragraph 4 below.

II. Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

2. By its resolution 70/281, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $1,081,788,400 gross ($1,062,932,700 net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. Expenditures for the period totalled $1,071,740,500 gross ($1,057,429,000 net), reflecting a budget implementation rate of 99.1 per cent. The resulting unencumbered balance of $10,047,900, in gross terms, represents 0.9 per cent of the appropriation, reflecting the combined effect of lower-than-budgeted expenditures under: (a) military and police personnel ($3,086,900, or 0.7 per cent); (b) civilian personnel ($6,186,900, or 2.5 per cent); and (c) operational costs ($774,100, or 0.2 per cent). A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/72/624).

3. In his report, the Secretary-General indicates that, during the period 2016/17, no redeployment among budgetary groups occurred (ibid., para. 43). The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information presented in the performance report on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 (A/72/802) in section IV below.

4. In considering the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of UNMISS, the Advisory Committee also had before it the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2017 (A/72/5 (Vol. II), chap. II). In its report, the Board made observations and recommendations pertaining to the Mission on a number of matters, including: (a) the redeployment of resources (ibid., para. 68); (b) the transportation of non-United Nations passengers on UNMISS aircraft (ibid., paras. 142–145); (c) the high percentage of travel requests that were not compliant with the advance purchase policy (ibid., paras. 323–333); (d) the mission support structure of UNMISS not reflecting the information presented in the budget document, meaning that guidance from Headquarters was needed (ibid., paras. 335–338); and (e) indicating a possible global problem, the manipulation of leave requests in Umoja by staff, which resulted in unauthorized travel using United Nations aircraft (ibid., paras. 502–511). **The Committee trusts that the recommendations of the Board of Auditors will be implemented expeditiously.**

III. Information on performance for the current period

5. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 9 March 2018, expenditures for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 amounted to $797,324,600. At the end of the current financial period, the Mission projects a total expenditure of $1,136,157,100 (gross), resulting in an anticipated overexpenditure in the amount of $65,157,100. That amount equals the requested additional appropriation in the amount of $65,157,100, which the Secretary-General requested in connection with the adoption of Security Council resolution 2304 (2016)[1] and the related anticipated arrival of new contingents as part of a 4,000-strong regional protection force in order to provide a secure environment in and around Juba (see A/72/792).

6. The Advisory Committee has considered the aforementioned request of the Secretary-General for additional resources and reported on it separately (see A/72/854). In that regard, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly appropriate the full additional amount of $65,157,100 requested by the Secretary-General for the maintenance of UNMISS for the 12-month period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, in addition to the amount of $1,071,000,000 already appropriated for the same period for the maintenance of the Mission under the terms of General Assembly resolution 71/308. **The Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide detailed information on actual expenditures incurred in the context of the performance report of UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.**

7. The Advisory Committee was provided with information on the incumbency of UNMISS military and civilian personnel as at 28 February 2018, as follows:

Category of personnel	*Posts authorized/approved 2017/18*[a]	*Posts encumbered*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
Military and police personnel			
Military observers	242	191	21.1
Military contingents	16 758	13 108	21.8
United Nations police	703	588	16.4
Formed police unit personnel	1 320	989	25.1
Civilian personnel			
International staff	921	849	7.8
National Professional Officers	157	149	5.1
National General Service staff	1 297	1 236	4.7
General temporary assistance			
International staff	32	30	6.3
National Professional Officers	10	9	10.0
United Nations Volunteers			
International	439	385	12.3
National	3	2	33.3
Government-provided personnel	78	70	10.3

[a] Represents the highest authorized strength for military and police personnel and the number of approved posts for civilian staff.

[1] In resolution 2304 (2016), the Security Council authorized a 4,000 troop-strong regional protection force mandated to provide a secure environment in and around Juba, and increased the troop ceiling to 17,000 while retaining the police ceiling of 2,001.

8. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 19 March 2018, a total of $6,825,581,000 had been assessed on Member States in respect of the Mission since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to $6,233,009,000, leaving an outstanding balance of $592,572,000. As at 19 March 2018, the cash available to the Mission amounted to $42,769,000, which is not sufficient to cover the three-month operating reserve of $207,099,000 (excluding reimbursements to troop- and police-contributing countries). **The Committee recalls that the General Assembly has repeatedly urged all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, on time, in full and without conditions (see General Assembly resolution 71/308, para. 3).**

9. The Advisory Committee was also informed that, as at 28 February 2018, payments totalling $190,894,000 had been made during 2017 for troop costs up to 31 October 2017. As at 31 December 2017, contingent-owned equipment had been certified and paid up to 30 September 2017, leaving a balance of $68,082,000. With regard to death and disability compensation, as at 28 February 2018, an amount of $1,271,000 had been paid to settle 30 claims since the inception of the Mission; payment for three claims was pending. **The Committee trusts that the outstanding claims will be settled expeditiously.**

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

A. Mandate and planning assumptions

10. The mandate of UNMISS was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1996 (2011). The most recent extension of the mandate, until 15 March 2019, was authorized by the Council in its resolution 2406 (2018).

11. The main priorities and planning assumptions of the Mission for the 2018/19 period are summarized in paragraphs 6 to 29 of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget for 2018/19 (A/72/802). The Secretary-General indicates that the Security Council adopted resolution 2406 (2018) and maintained the four priority areas of the UNMISS mandate as set out in previous resolutions, namely: (a) protection of civilians; (b) monitoring, reporting and investigating human rights; (c) creating the conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance; and (d) supporting the implementation of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (the Peace Agreement).

B. Resource requirements

12. The proposed budget for UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 amounts to $1,154,657,700, representing an increase of $83,657,700, or 7.8 per cent, compared with the appropriation for 2017/18.[2] This amount reflects the combined effect of proposed increases under military and police personnel ($41,276,000, or 8.2 per cent) and civilian personnel ($54,511,500, or 24.7 per cent) and a proposed decrease under operational costs ($12,129,800, or 3.5 per cent).

[2] When taking into consideration the additional appropriation in the amount of $65,157,100 requested by the Secretary-General for the period 2017/18 (see para. 6 above), the total appropriation for that period would amount to $1,136,157,100, and the proposed budget for 2018/19 would represent an increase of $18,500,600, or 1.62 per cent, compared with the sum of the two separate appropriations for 2017/18.

Detailed information on the financial resources proposed and an analysis of variances is provided in sections II and III of the proposed budget (ibid.).

1. Military and police personnel

Category	*Authorized 2017/18*[a]	*Proposed 2018/19*[b]	*Variance*
Military observers	242	242	–
Military contingent personnel	16 758	16 758	–
United Nations police	703	703	–
Formed police unit personnel	1 320	1 320	–
Total	**19 023**	**19 023**	–

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.
[b] Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2406 (2018).

13. The proposed resources for military and police personnel for 2018/19 amount to $542,451,600, reflecting an increase of $41,276,000, or 8.2 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2017/18. The increase is mainly the result of the sustained deployment of 16,758 military contingent personnel, with funding for an average strength of 14,077 contingent personnel, compared with the approved resources for 2017/18 for an average strength of 12,334 military contingent personnel, and higher contractual unit prices for rations and mobilization costs. The increase would be offset in part by the reduced average deployment of 612 United Nations police officers compared with the authorized strength of 703 United Nations police officers; lower reimbursement costs for contingent-owned equipment; and the exclusion of requirements for freight and deployment of contingent-owned equipment owing to the expected deployment of all equipment for formed police units.

14. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as of March 2018, of the 13,108 deployed troops, a total of 771 troops, or 6 per cent, continued to remain in United Nations-provided accommodation, which was not considered up to standard. The Committee was also informed that the focus of the Mission had been on the replacement of prefabricated ablutions using hard-walled structures and major maintenance of the older units, and that the new standard for United Nations-provided accommodation for military and police units, which had been established in July 2017, placed a focus on the quality of living conditions rather than the type of accommodation. Upon further enquiry with respect to the reimbursement provided to troop- or police-contributing countries in the event that standard United Nations field mission accommodation is not provided after six months,[3] the Committee was informed that monthly payments to the troop- and police-contributing countries concerned had not been effected as the relevant memorandums of understanding were pending signatures. **The Committee trusts that standard accommodation will be provided to all troops in a timely manner, as required, so as to obviate the need for penalty payments at both the tentage and the accommodation self-sustainment rates (see also A/71/836/Add.15, para. 46).**

15. The Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that an amount of $16 million is required for 2018/19 for additional mobilization costs related to one new warehouse and two refurbished warehouses for rations. **The Committee trusts that the aforementioned activities with respect to the three warehouses will be**

[3] Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that when the United Nations is unable to provide standard United Nations field mission accommodation for a unit after six months in tents, the troop- or police-contributing country is entitled to receive reimbursement at both the tentage and the accommodation self-sustainment rates.

concluded during the 2018/19 period and stresses that no related resources for that purpose should be requested in the budget for the 2019/20 period.

16. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the average ceiling per person per day rate for food rations for the period 2018/19 for military contingents amounts to $7.68, while the rate for formed police units amounts to $8.35. The Committee requested, but did not receive, an adequate explanation for the application of two separate rates for rations, and notes that, when applying a ceiling per person per day rate of $7.68 for rations for formed police units, the proposed resources for that purpose would amount to $3,560,280 instead of $3,870,877. **The Committee therefore recommends a reduction of $310,600 to the proposed resources for rations for formed police units.**

17. **Subject to its observations and recommendation in paragraph 16 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for military and police personnel.**

2. Civilian personnel

Category	*Approved 2017/18*	*Proposed 2018/19*	*Variance*
Posts			
International staff	921	919	(2)
National Professional Officers	157	157	–
National General Service staff	1 297	1 271	(26)
Temporary positions[a]			
International staff	32	32	–
National Professional Officers	10	10	–
United Nations Volunteers			
International United Nations Volunteers	439	439	–
National United Nations Volunteers	3	3	–
Government-provided personnel	78	78	
Total	**2 937**	**2 909**	**(28)**

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

18. The proposed resources for civilian personnel for 2018/19 amount to $275,257,100, reflecting an increase of $54,511,500, or 24.7 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2017/18.

19. The Secretary-General indicates that the aforementioned increase is attributable mainly to higher requirements under: (a) international staff ($34,216,700, or 22.6 per cent), owing to an increased post adjustment multiplier, the application of a lower vacancy rate of 9 per cent compared with 15 per cent in 2017/18 (see also para. 22 below), the application of a higher percentage of common staff costs and an increased number of staff who are entitled to danger pay, offset in part by the proposed abolishment of two Field Service posts; (b) national staff ($18,884,700, or 48.4 per cent), owing to the application of revised salary scales denominated in United States dollars, a higher average level/step for the calculation of salaries and related costs for national General Service posts and a lower vacancy rate of 8 per cent for National Professional Officers and 5 per cent for national General Service staff (ibid.), offset in part by the proposed abolishment of 26 national General Service posts; (c) United Nations Volunteers ($236,200, or 1.1 per cent), owing to the application of a lower vacancy rate of 10 per cent for international United Nations Volunteers, compared

with 11 per cent in 2017/18 (ibid.); and (d) general temporary assistance ($1,106,100, or 21.6 per cent), owing to higher common staff costs for 32 temporary international staff, an increased post adjustment multiplier and the application of a lower vacancy rate of 15 per cent for temporary international staff and 10 per cent for temporary national staff, compared with 20 per cent for both categories in 2017/18 (see A/72/802, paras. 99–102).

20. The Secretary-General indicates that, as part of the Mission's continuous review and alignment of functions and lines of reporting, it is proposed that: (a) Geospatial, Information and Telecommunication Technologies, which currently reports to the Director of Mission Support, report to the Logistic Service Delivery pillar; (b) the Integrated Mission Training Centre report directly to the Human Resources Section; and (c) the Acquisitions and Requisitions Unit be transferred from Logistics Service Delivery to Supply Chain Management (ibid., para. 42).

21. The Secretary-General is not proposing the establishment of new posts and positions, but proposes the abolishment of 28 posts and positions and the reassignment and/or redeployment of 167 posts and positions. The staffing changes proposed under each office are set out in paragraphs 42 to 77 of the report of the Secretary-General.

Vacancy rates

22. The proposed vacancy factors are as follows (see A/72/802, sect. II.D): 9.0 per cent for international staff; 8.0 per cent for National Professional Officers; 5.0 per cent for national General Service staff; and 10.0 per cent for international United Nations Volunteers. The Advisory Committee was provided with vacancy rates for the period from 1 July 2017 to 28 February 2018, showing that for international United Nations Volunteers, the actual vacancy rate, as at 28 February 2018, was 12.3 per cent and the actual average vacancy rate was 10.7 per cent. **The Committee recommends a vacancy factor of 10.7 per cent for international United Nations Volunteers. Any related operational costs should be adjusted, as appropriate.**

Long-vacant posts

23. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 1 April 2018, 14 posts (1 P-3, 1 Field Service and 12 national General Service) had been vacant for more than two years. Of those posts, five were being proposed for abolishment in the period 2018/19, while seven of the remaining posts were in various administrative stages of recruitment. The Committee was also informed that one post of Telecommunications Assistant (national General Service), which had been vacant since 31 July 2015, had been loaned to the Human Rights Section for the purposes of recruitment of a Language Assistant, and that it was proposed that a second post of Telecommunications Assistant be reassigned to the Mission Support Centre as a post of Logistics Assistant. **The Committee considers that the functions of the two long-vacant posts of Telecommunications Assistant (national General Service) are no longer operationally required and recommends the abolishment of those two posts. Any related operational costs should be adjusted accordingly.**

24. **Subject to its observations and recommendations in paragraphs 22 and 23 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for civilian staff.**

3. Operational costs

(United States dollars)

	Apportioned 2017/18	*Proposed 2018/19*	*Variance*
Operational costs	349 078 800	336 949 000	(12 129 800)

25. The proposed resources for operational costs for 2018/19 amount to $336,949,000, reflecting a decrease of $12,129,800, or 3.5 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2017/18. A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section III of the proposed budget.

Official travel

26. The proposed resources for official travel for 2018/19 amount to $4,049,100, representing a decrease of $277,500, or 6.4 per cent, compared with the 2017/18 period. The Advisory Committee was informed that requirements pertaining to travel outside of the Mission area for non-training purposes would amount to $1,268,000. The Committee was provided with a detailed list of the Mission's travel requirements for the period 2018/19, showing that, in some instances, a number of trips were not well justified and/or could be combined in order to achieve efficiencies, and that the class for travel was not always justified, in particular in cases of junior staff accompanying a senior official. The Committee also notes some discrepancies and price differences, such as different prices for identical flights, for example with respect to a trip to Bangkok. **The Committee is of the view that a number of trips could be consolidated or undertaken with fewer travellers and that training-related trips, including to workshops and conferences, should not be included under non-training travel. Accordingly, the Committee recommends a reduction of 5 per cent, or $63,400, to the proposed resources for non-training travel outside of the Mission area.**

27. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Mission intended to organize increased on-site training, to be provided by external trainers (with related requirements included under consultants), as this measure would enable a wider participation of UNMISS staff and would obviate the need for travel requirements for individual staff members leaving the Mission area for the purposes of training. **The Committee welcomes this approach.**

Facilities and infrastructure

28. The proposed resources for facilities and infrastructure for 2018/19 amount to $98,388,000, reflecting an increase of $3,601,300, or 3.8 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2017/18. The Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that under acquisition of office equipment, acquisition of safety and security equipment, maintenance services, and stationery and office supplies, significant underexpenditure was recorded for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 periods. Furthermore, with respect to the construction of solar farms, the Committee notes from information provided to it that, in 2016/17, an amount of $10,135,921 (of an apportioned amount of $12,435,921) was expended for solar equipment that would no longer be used at its original location; also, while the project had started in July 2016, outsourcing to install the equipment was only now under way. The Committee was also informed that, for the period 2018/19, an additional amount of $2,328,256 was proposed for the construction of solar farms at two locations to commence in July 2018, even though the project remained in its early stages (see paras. 34–37 below). Furthermore, with regard to safety and security equipment, the Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that requirements for uniforms, badges and gear had

previously been budgeted under the budget category of other supplies and services and would amount to $1,111,317 in 2018/19, and that an underexpenditure of $554,600, or 45.2 per cent, had been incurred in 2016/17 for that purpose.

29. The Advisory Committee requested, but was not provided with, adequate justification for the variances between the expenditures incurred in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and the proposed requirements for 2018/19 for maintenance services; acquisition of safety and security equipment; construction, alteration, renovation and major maintenance; and uniforms, badges and gear. **The Committee recommends a reduction of $3,000,000 to the proposed resources for facilities and infrastructure.**

Ground transportation

30. The proposed resources for ground transportation amount to $11,989,300, reflecting a decrease of $1,872,300, or 13.5 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2017/18. The Secretary-General indicates that UNMISS plans to acquire 22 crossover, or multipurpose, vehicles to replace light passenger vehicles in the 2017/18 period (see A/72/802, sect. V.B). The Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that a total of 863 light passenger vehicles were expected to be in situ in 2018/19, of which 375 vehicles were allocated for the use of 1,414 civilian staff, 374 vehicles for the use of military and police personnel and 114 vehicles for the use of contractors and formed police units, as well as for air transport and transport dispatch operations. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the ratios for international staff were higher as vehicles were kept in a pool as strategic reserves for sudden breakdowns, major accidents, support needed in case of unexpected political events, temporary support for the initial deployment of troops and visits by very important persons. The Committee notes that in several instances, vehicle holdings were above the standard ratios, indicating that adequate vehicle inventories are currently available.

31. The Advisory Committee requested, but was not provided with, adequate justification for the variances between the expenditures incurred in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and the proposed requirements for 2018/19. **The Committee recommends a reduction of 20 per cent, or $2,397,900, to the proposed resources for ground transportation.**

32. **Subject to its observations and recommendations contained in paragraphs 22, 23, 26, 29 and 31 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the Secretary-General's proposals for operational costs.**

4. Other matters

Representation of women in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

33. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that women were represented in UNMISS, as at 31 March 2018, as follows: (a) 26 per cent of international staff; (b) 14 per cent of national staff; (c) 31 per cent of international United Nations Volunteers; (d) 67 per cent of national United Nations Volunteers; (e) 3 per cent of military personnel; and (f) 18 per cent of police personnel. The Committee was also informed, upon enquiry, that in accordance with the gender equality strategy of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, the efforts of the Mission included setting targets and monitoring progress for parity at all levels; recruitment, mobility, progression and talent management; and creating camp accommodation aimed at improving working and living conditions. The Committee was also informed that UNMISS was working with the Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development of South Sudan to improve gender parity among national staff and that outreach efforts included the announcement of vacancies on the radio and job fairs. Furthermore,

UNMISS encourages female uniformed personnel to attend information sessions on the United Nations recruitment process. **The Committee welcomes these initiatives and looks forward to an update in the context of the budget proposal for the 2019/20 period.**

Environmental matters and energy efficiency

34. The Secretary-General indicates that UNMISS intends to continue its efforts to reduce its overall environmental footprint, including the implementation of initiatives on solid and hazardous waste management, the commencement of the construction of two solar farms in Juba and Wau (see also para. 28 above), the use of water and power meters and the measurement of generator fuel consumption (see A/72/802, sect. V.B).

35. With regard to the prevention and remediation of soil contamination, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that vehicle and generator technicians had been trained in the use of oil spill kits for the containment and prevention of soil contamination. The Committee was also informed that, in 2017, UNMISS had developed an internal training manual on bioremediation and the use of chicken manure to remedy the effects of soil contamination. With regard to the recycling of electronic waste, the Committee was informed, also upon enquiry, that electronic waste was disposed of through a contractor whose facility was inspected annually to ensure that environmental standards were met. Also, the disposal of vehicles was conducted in accordance with established procedures, with no abandoned written-off vehicles located in the Mission area.

36. With regard to energy efficiency, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that related initiatives had resulted in a 2 per cent reduction of monthly fuel consumption between the 2016/17 and 2017/18 periods, including as a result of the installation of 4,000 light-emitting diode lights, the installation of solar water heaters, the use of induction cookers and the increased use of inverter type air conditioners. The Committee was also informed that, following the planned installation of two solar farms in Wau and Juba in 2018/19, fuel requirements would be reduced and reflected accordingly in the 2019/20 budget proposal.

37. **The Advisory Committee notes the Mission's environmental initiatives and continues to encourage UNMISS to pursue its efforts to reduce its overall environmental footprint, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolutions 69/307 and 70/286 and as recommended by the Board of Auditors in its report (A/72/5 (Vol. II), chap. II), and to ensure the implementation of the environmental action plan, in line with the Department of Field Support environmental strategy. Furthermore, the Committee expects that UNMISS will take advantage of lessons learned with respect to environmental waste management practices from closed missions, for example the United Nations Mission in Liberia and the revised Liquidation Manual (see A/72/839, paras. 11–15 and 29–30).** The Committee makes further observations and recommendations on environmental matters and energy efficiency in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/72/789).

Other programmatic activities

38. Information on other programmatic activities proposed to be undertaken in 2018/19 is provided in paragraphs 89 and 90 of the proposed budget. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that 18 programmatic activities were currently under way, with UNMISS acting as the implementing entity for 17 activities. **The Committee recognizes the efforts of UNMISS in this regard.**

39. **The Advisory Committee reiterates the need for comprehensive guidance on: (a) explanations of the types of programmatic activity to be funded by**

peacekeeping missions; (b) justifications that the activities support implementation of mandated tasks in each mission; (c) the mission's comparative advantage in the delivery of these activities as well as those of implementing partners; (d) the contractual arrangements in place with implementing partners; and (e) appropriate oversight, governance and reporting mechanisms. While the Committee notes that the report of the Secretary-General does not provide comprehensive information relating to the scope, criteria, governance and accounting procedures for programmatic activities funded from peacekeeping operations, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/286, it does not object to the proposed resources for other programmatic activities at this stage. The Committee makes further observations and recommendations on programmatic activities for the 2018/19 period in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/72/789).

Mine detection and mine-clearing services

40. Information on mine detection and mine-clearing activities, with estimated requirements in the amount of $38,602,500, is provided in paragraphs 86 to 88 of the proposed budget. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that owing to the ongoing armed conflict in South Sudan, mine action resources were required on a recurring basis, with the Mine Action Service assisting UNMISS in the implementation of its mandate through the provision of technical capacity, inter alia, through: (a) the conduct of emergency surveys and clearance of explosive remnants of war; (b) the delivery of emergency mine risk awareness and education; (c) the assessment, verification and clearing of roads, airstrips and helicopter landing sites from landmines and unexploded ordnance; (d) the conduct of surveys, mine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal to release land for civilians as well as for mission components and humanitarian actors to implement their activities; (e) the operation of explosive detection dog teams to conduct entry control at UNMISS bases; and (f) the maintenance of a database of all known contamination in the area of operations. The Committee makes further observations and recommendations on mine detection and mine-clearing services in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/72/789).

V. Conclusion

41. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly regarding the financing of UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 are indicated in section V of the performance report (A/72/624). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $10,047,900 for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, as well as other income/adjustments amounting to $10,463,200 for the period ended 30 June 2017, be credited to Member States.**

42. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly regarding the financing of UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 are indicated in section IV of the proposed budget (A/72/802). **Taking into account its recommendations in paragraphs 22, 23, 26, 29 and 31 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the proposed resources be reduced by $6,197,300, from $1,154,657,700 to $1,148,460,400. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly appropriate the amount of $1,148,460,400 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.**

Documentation

- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/72/624)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 (A/72/802)
- Note by the Secretary-General on the financing arrangements for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/72/792)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/72/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (A/71/836/Add.15)
- General Assembly resolution 71/308
- Security Council resolutions 1996 (2011), 2304 (2016) and 2406 (2018)